Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, line 27, to page 11, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

Next, in step 58 a color difference metric value, in this case a delta E ("ΔE") value, for the color imaging device is determined in SS processing system 12 from the μ-factor, although other combinations of the μ-factor and/or other quality factors could also be used to determine the color difference metric value. In this particular embodiment, a relationship between μ-factor and ΔE stored in memory 18 is used by processor 16 to determine the color difference metric value. One example of such a derived relationship between μ-factor and ΔE is set forth below:

derived relationship between μ-factor and ΔE

μ-factor	Min Expected ΔE	Max Expected ΔE
0.9	2.2	4.8
0.91	2.0	4.7
0.92	1.9	4.4
0.93	1.8	4.0
0.94	1.8	3.8
0.95	1.6	3.5
0.96	1.5	3.2
0.97	1.3	3
0.98	1.2	2.5
0.99	1.1	2

Based on this relationship, the color difference metric value in this particular embodiment is obtained by averaging the minimum and maximum expected ΔE value expected for the determined μ-factor. For example, a μ-factor of 0.98 would result in color difference metric value of 1.85.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 22-33, with the following amended paragraph:

Next, in step 66 the obtained spectral sensitivity curves from step 52 are used by the SS processing system 12 to determine a Universal Measure of Goodness (UMG) factor. UMG takes into account the total noise of the system, both shot noise which is signal dependent and dark noise which is signal independent, and an expected average color

difference. Total noise is measured through the sum of the shot noise covariance and the dark current noise covariance, while the expectation of the noise is still zero. For a standard set of object spectra, τ is the information content which would be delivered by the system described by the spectral sensitivity curves. Thus, τ is a function of the total noise and the average $\underline{\Delta}E$. For the same standard set of object spectra, α is the information content which a perfectly noise-free colorimetric system would deliver. UMG is the ratio of τ to α.